

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

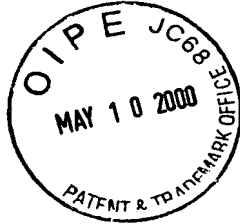
Application of:

Peter ERMANN et al.

Application No.: 09/450,217

Filed: November 29, 1999

For: PROCESS FOR THE TREATMENT  
OF A LACTIC RAW MATERIAL



Group Art Unit: 1653

Examiner: D. Lukton

Attorney Docket No.: 8265-296

#5/a  
chh  
5-18-00

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 27, 2000, applicants respectfully request entry of the following comments into the file of the above-identified application.

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MAY 15 2000  
TC 1600 MAIL ROOM

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claim 2, line 13, after the word "protease" replace "," with ---.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 3-22 and claim 2, as amended, appear in this application for the Examiner's review and consideration.

In response to the Examiner's restriction requirement, applicants provisionally elect the invention of Group 1 and species G1, claims 1-13, for prosecution in this application. Accordingly, applicants expressly reserve the right to file a divisional application for the claims of Groups 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 and species G2 and G3 prior to issuance of this application.

In addition, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the restriction requirement so that Groups 1, 2, 4 and 5 and species G1 and G2 are examined together. All the claims in these groups are drawn to a process for the extraction of glycomacropeptide or